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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/670,089

09/24/2003

Chun Tsun Chen

14603

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EXAMINER

TRAN, THUY V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/670,089	CHEN, CHUN TSUN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thuy V. Tran	2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment submitted on 12/17/04.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5 and 6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicant's amendment submitted on 12/17/2004. In virtue of this amendment, claim 4 is canceled; and thus, claims 1-3 and 5-6 are now presented in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Crane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,164,797).

With respect to claim 1, Crane et al. discloses, in Figs. 1 and 2, a compact fluorescent lamp holder comprising (1) a plurality of sockets [14, 16], each of which is adapted to receive a compact fluorescent lamp (see col. 2, lines 21-24) having only one electrical connection end (only one connection end for each wire [32, 34]; see Fig. 1), (2) a ballast mechanism [24, 26] comprising a ballast circuit [24] therein (see col. 2, lines 27-29), and (3) a plurality of electric wires [32, 34] for electrically connecting the sockets to the ballast circuit [24] so that the compact fluorescent lamps when mounted in each of the sockets [14, 16] will be turned on when an AC power is provided to the ballast circuit (via feed wires 28; see Fig. 1; col. 1, lines 21-28).

With respect to claim 2, Figs. 1 and 2 of Crane et al. show that the ballast mechanism [24, 26] comprises a shell [40] (see Fig. 2) for accommodating the ballast circuit therein, and the shell

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comprises a fastening mechanism (narrow openings shown in [26]; see Fig. 1) for non-electrically fastening the shell to a lighting fixture.

With respect to claim 3, Figs. 1 and 2 of Crane et al. show that the sockets [14, 16] are connected to the ballast mechanism [24, 26] by the plurality of wires [32, 34] only (see Fig. 1).

With respect to claim 5, Figs. 1 and 2 of Crane et al. show that the shell [40] is a polygonal hollow body, and the fastening mechanism comprises a plurality of slots (narrow openings in [26]; see Fig. 1) at an edge thereof.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,164,797) in view of Chang (U.S. Patent No. 6,194,840).

With respect to claim 6, Crane et al. discloses all of the claimed subject matter, as expressly recited in claim 1, except that the ballast circuit comprising an EMI circuit, a rectifying and filter circuit, an inverter circuit, and an output circuit, wherein the EMI circuit is configured to be connected with a source of AC power, the rectifying and filter circuit is connected to the EMI circuit and provides a DC current to the inverter circuit, and the inverter circuit and the output circuit provide a high voltage for activating the compact fluorescent lamps and a high frequency AC current to the compact fluorescent lamps for maintaining their stable lighting.

Chang discloses, in Fig. 2, a ballast circuit comprising an EMI circuit [L1, C1], a rectifying and filter circuit [D1, D2, D3, D4, C3], an inverter circuit [Q1, Q2], and an output circuit [17, T1, C4], wherein the EMI circuit [L1, C1] is configured to be connected with an AC power, the rectifying and filter circuit [D1, D2, D3, D4, C3] is connected to the EMI circuit and provides a DC current to the inverter circuit [Q1, Q2], and the inverter circuit and the output circuit provide a high voltage for activating the compact fluorescent lamps and a high frequency AC current to the compact fluorescent lamps for maintaining their stable lighting (see col. 3, line 56 – col. 4, line 54).

Such a ballast circuit taught by Chang offers many advantages that its output voltage remains constant even if the lamp or lamps is/are extinguished or removed, and that it is at low cost (see col. 1, lines 56-61 and col. 2, lines 12-14). Therefore, to replace the ballast of Crane et al. with the one taught by Chang for such advantages would have been deemed obvious to a person skilled in the art of power electronics.

Remarks and conclusion

5. Applicant's arguments in the amendment filed December 17th, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to the Applicant's arguments on amended claims 1-3 and 5 in paragraphs 1-3 at page 7 of the amendment, the Examiner disagrees with the Applicant's statements, which are "Crane et al. does not teach the use of any such sockets" and "Neither Crane et al. nor any of the other cited references disclose or fairly suggest, either individually or collectively, such a lamp holder" meaning that each of the sockets (of the claimed invention) has only one electrical connection end, and that the sockets (of the claimed invention) are connected to the ballast

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mechanism by the plurality of wires only. As addressed in the section “Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102” set forth in this Office Action, Figures 1 and 2 of the cited reference Crane et al. clearly show these limitations. Therefore, claims 1-3 and 5 remain rejected as being anticipated by the teachings of Crane et al..

With respect to the Applicant’s arguments on amended claim 6 in the fourth paragraph at page 7 and the first paragraph at page 8 of the amendment, the Examiner disagrees with the Applicant’s statement, which is “None of the references cited herein teach or fairly suggest such a lamp holder” meaning that each of the sockets (of the claimed invention) has only one electrical connection end. As addressed in the sections “Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102” and “Claim Rejections – 35 UCS §103” set forth in this Office Action, Figures 1 and 2 of the cited reference Crane et al. clearly show this limitation. Therefore, the rejection of claim 6 under 35 UCS § 103 is still hold; or in other words, claim 6 remains rejected as being unpatentable over the combined teachings of Crane et al. and Chang (see “Claim Rejections – 35 UCS §103” for details).

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

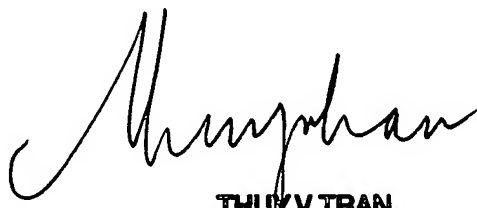
Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

03/12/2005


THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER